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CIA, Radio Free Europe Link Stirs Unrest

N.Y. Times News Service
NEW YORK — Dr. Frank Stanton, president of the Columbia Broadcasting System, elaborated last night on a position taken earlier by the network to discontinue free spot announcements for Radio Free Europe because they did not make it

clear that the organization was an arm of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA.)

Monday night in a program titled "In the Pay of the CIA: An American Dilemma," CBS announced that it had not carried such announcements since Feb. 15 and was in the process of restudying its policy on tele-

vising the announcements in the future.

But last night, in a telegram to John Richardson Jr., president of the Radio Free Europe Fund, Inc., Stanton said it was all a misunderstanding.

A spokesman for CBS News, which produced the CIA docu-

mentary, said there would be no comment on Stanton's telegram.

THE NATIONAL Broadcasting Company had said it would continue to give free television time to Radio Free Europe as long as the practice was supported by the Advertising Council.

The Advertising Council conducts about 20 public service campaigns, including those for traffic safety, forest fire prevention and the United Nations. A council spokesman said Monday night that the council's campaign for 1967 had ended and the question of future campaigns would be taken up routinely next fall.

Radio Free Europe, which has its headquarters in Munich, has been in existence since 1950. It is privately financed by contributions from United States citizens and beams information, culture, religion and entertainment programs to East European countries. The fact that it receives some of its financial support from the CIA has been public knowledge for more than a year.